

News Release

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 62

Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lou Hinds, Refuge Manager

Date: February 11, 2009

Phone: 757-336-6122

Calling All Artists for 2009 Bird Celebration Logo Art Contest!

It's that time of year, when aspiring artists of all ages are encouraged to showcase their talent by competing in the logo art contest for the 15th Annual International Migratory Bird Day Celebration at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

The winning artwork will be the official trademark of the celebration to be held at the refuge on May 9, 2009. It will appear on all of the event-related materials including: the program, flyers, T-shirts, and other items.

"The logo art contest is an opportunity for individuals to express their appreciation of the natural beauty of migratory birds," said Refuge Manager Lou Hinds. Nature found at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge has always been a source of inspiration for artists."

This year's theme is "Celebrate Birds in Culture" and will focus on the local Native American culture that took place on the Eastern Shore. Artists should submit an original, line-art drawing of a migratory bird that was of particular importance to the Indian people except for the bald eagle, a past winner. Specifically birds such as: hawks, woodpeckers, owls, swans and ducks.

In order to compete, submitted art must be an original, line art drawing in pen and ink. Artists may submit as many pieces as they wish. The logo art should be clean and precise, as it will be reduced to fit in a number of event-related items, including buttons that are approximately three inches in diameter.

The contestants' art will not be mailed back. However, contestants may pick up their artwork at the refuge after the contest has ended. The only exception is the winning submission, which will become the property of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Contestants must submit their art work to Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge by close of business on Monday, March 30, 2009.

To submit a drawing, please send artwork to Sally Bowden at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 62, Chincoteague, Virginia, 23336. For more information, call

(757) 336-6122.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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